



MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT
FÜR PHYSIK

Cosmohedra

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Based on 2412.19881 with N. Arkani-Hamed and C. Figueiredo

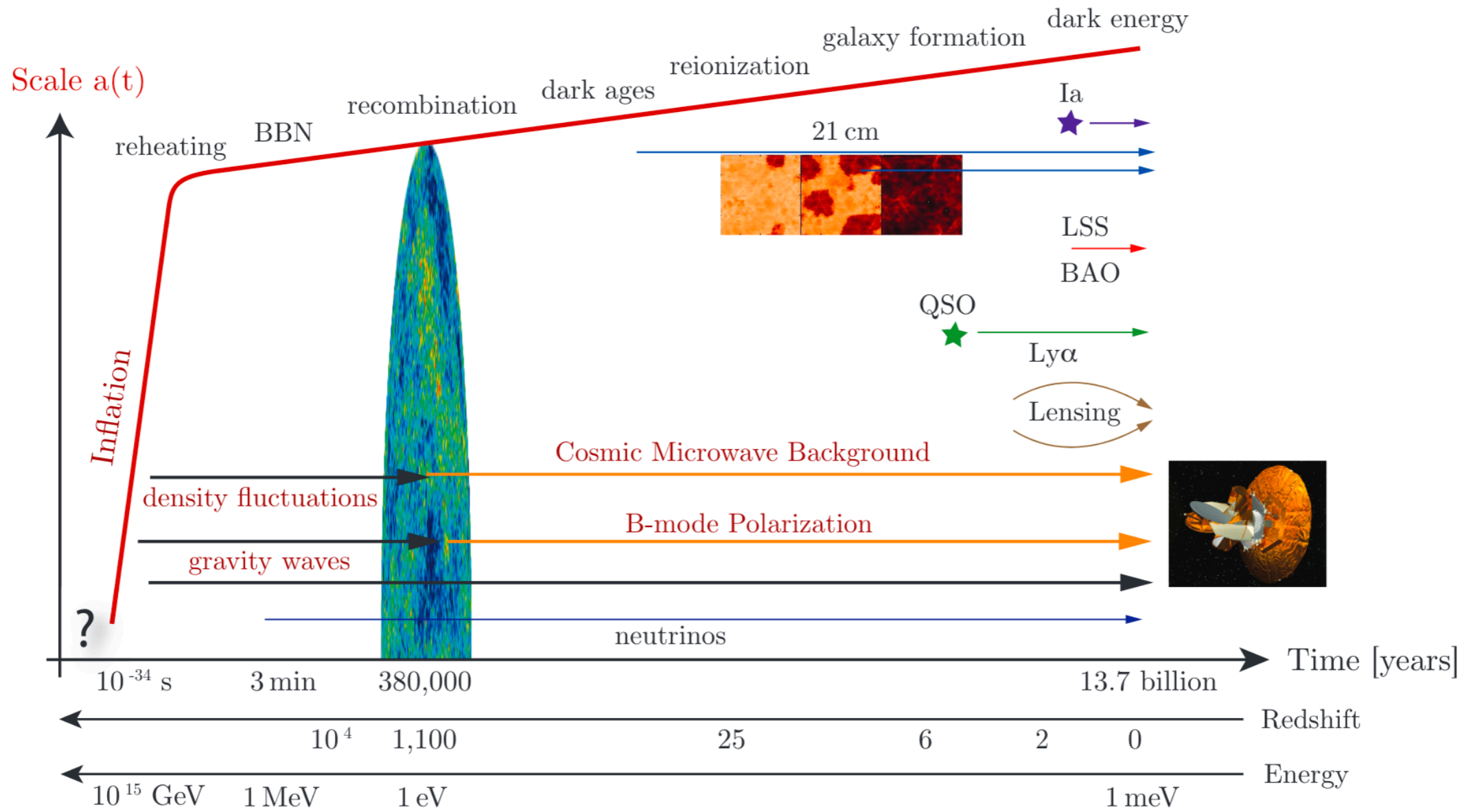
IMPRS Colloquium, 13th of March, 2025

Outline

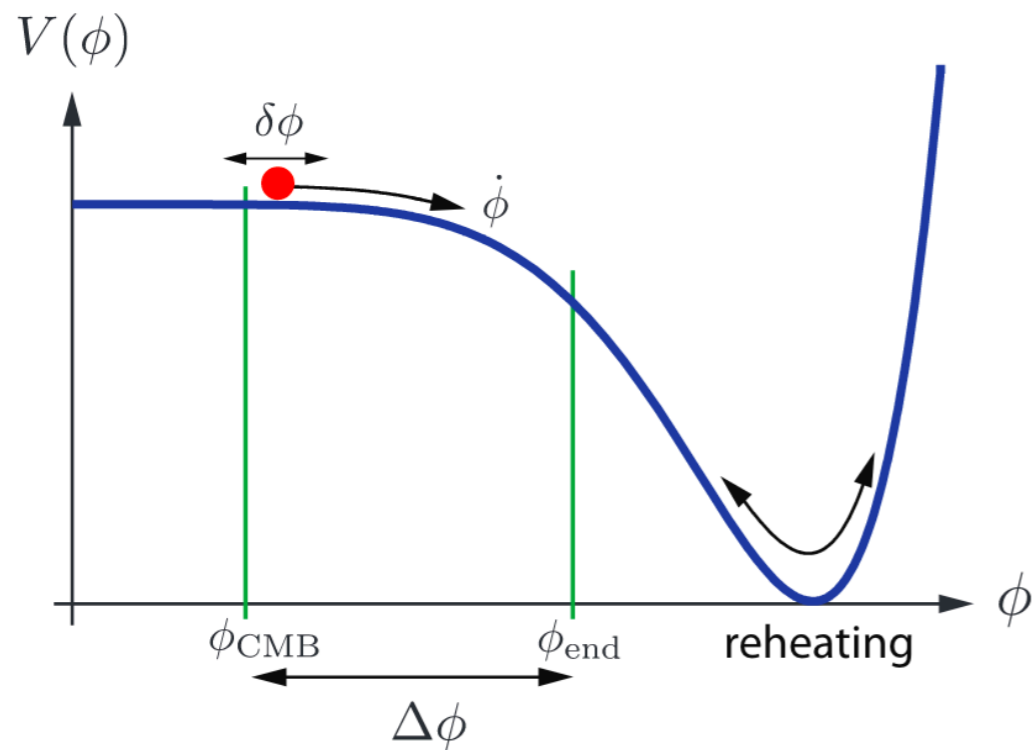
- The Wavefunction.
- The ABHY Associahedron.
- Cosmohedra.

The Wavefunction

Inflation



Inflationary models



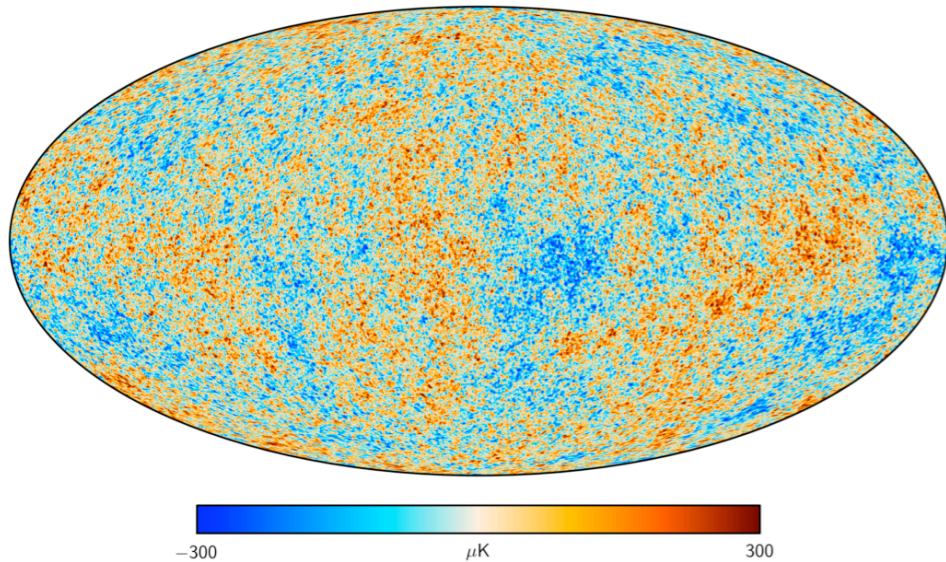
Scalar field sitting
in a false vacuum

Scalar Potential such that the
SEC is violated and the scalar
field generates negative
pressure

Accelerated expansion while
field slow rolls down the
potential

Field approaches the true
vacuum, inflation stops and
reheating starts

Cosmological Observables

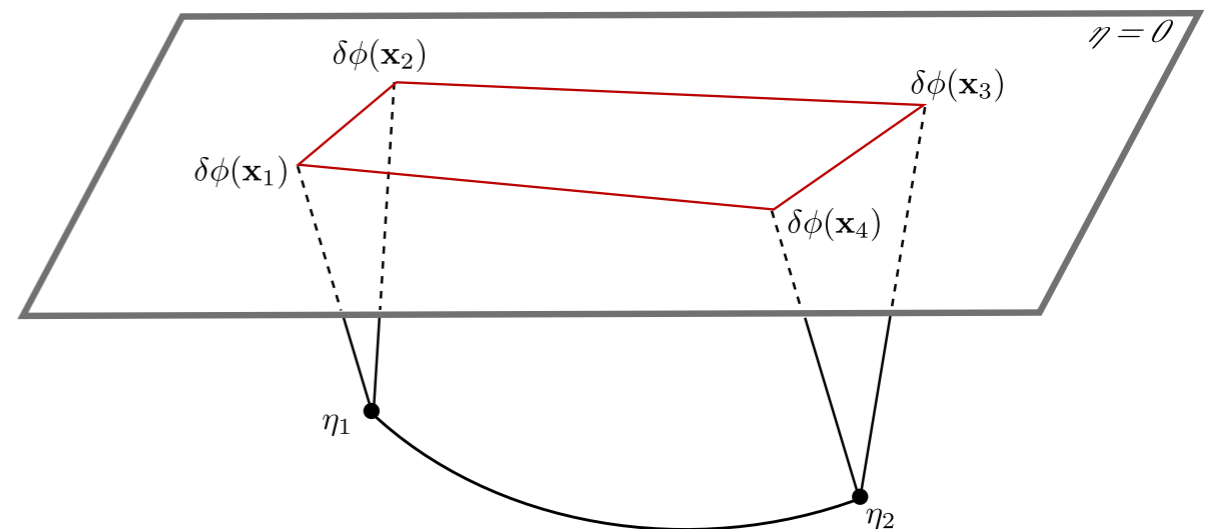


We expect that correlations of the temperature at different points in the Cosmic Microwave Background (CMB), $\langle \delta T(\mathbf{x}_1) \delta T(\mathbf{x}_2) \dots \delta T(\mathbf{x}_n) \rangle$ are related to quantum fluctuations of a scalar field during inflation, $\langle \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_1) \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \dots \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_n) \rangle$

The correlation functions of the fields at the end of inflation, can be defined as:

$$\langle \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_1) \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \dots \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_n) \rangle = \int_{\delta \phi(-\infty)}^{\delta \phi(0)} [\mathcal{D}\delta \phi]^n \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_1) \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_2) \dots \delta \phi(\mathbf{x}_n) |\Psi[\delta \phi]|^2$$

$\Psi[\delta \phi]$ is the vacuum wavefunction.



Wavefunction

The wavefunction can be defined as:

$$\Psi[\delta\phi] = \int_{\delta\phi(-\infty(1-i\epsilon))}^{\delta\phi(0)} \mathcal{D}[\varphi] e^{i\mathcal{S}[\varphi]}$$

$$\mathcal{S}[\phi] = \int d^d x d\eta \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} (\partial\phi)^2 - \frac{\lambda_3(\eta)}{3} \text{Tr} \phi^3$$

Colored scalars with cubic interactions

Bunch-Davies condition

$$\lambda_3(\eta) \equiv \lambda_3 a(\eta) \quad a(\eta) = \eta^{-(1+\epsilon)}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \epsilon = -1 & \text{Flat-space} \\ \epsilon = 0 & \text{dS} \end{array}$$

And it can be computed perturbatively, as follows:

$$\Psi[\delta\phi] = \exp \left\{ \sum_{n \geq 2} \frac{1}{n!} \int \prod_{i=1}^n d^d k_i \delta\phi_i(k_i) \psi^{(n)}[\vec{k}_i] \delta^d \left(\sum_i \vec{k}_i \right) \right\}$$

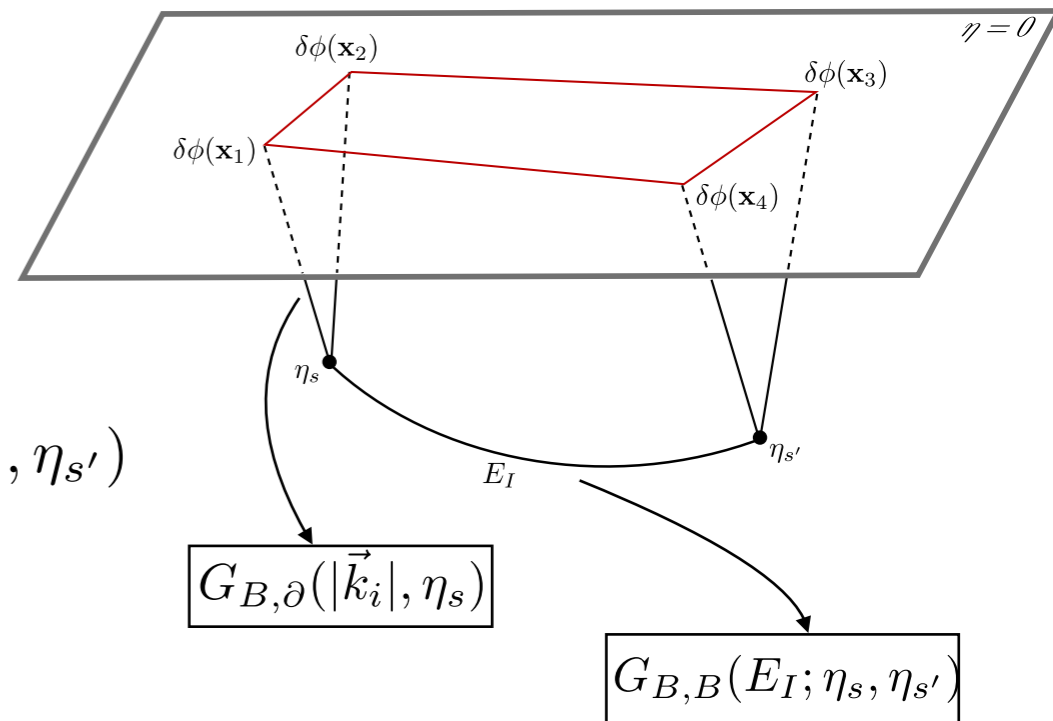
Wavefunction coefficient

$$\psi^{(n)} = \sum_{\mathcal{G}} \psi_{\mathcal{G}}$$

Wavefunction

Each wavefunction coefficient as an integral form of the type:

$$\psi_{\mathcal{G}} = \int_{-\infty}^0 \prod_{s \in \mathcal{V}_s} \left[d\eta_s \lambda(\eta_s) \prod_{\vec{k}_i} G_{B,\partial}(|\vec{k}_i|, \eta_s) \right] \prod_{e \in \mathcal{E}} G_{B,B}(E_I; \eta_s, \eta_{s'})$$



$$G_{B,\partial}(E_k, \eta) = e^{iE_k \eta} \quad \boxed{\text{Bulk-to-Boundary propagator}}$$

$$G_{B,B}(E_k; \eta_1, \eta_2) = \frac{1}{2E_k} \left(e^{iE_k(\eta_1 - \eta_2)} \Theta(\eta_1 - \eta_2) + e^{iE_k(\eta_2 - \eta_1)} \Theta(\eta_2 - \eta_1) - e^{iE_k(\eta_1 + \eta_2)} \right)$$

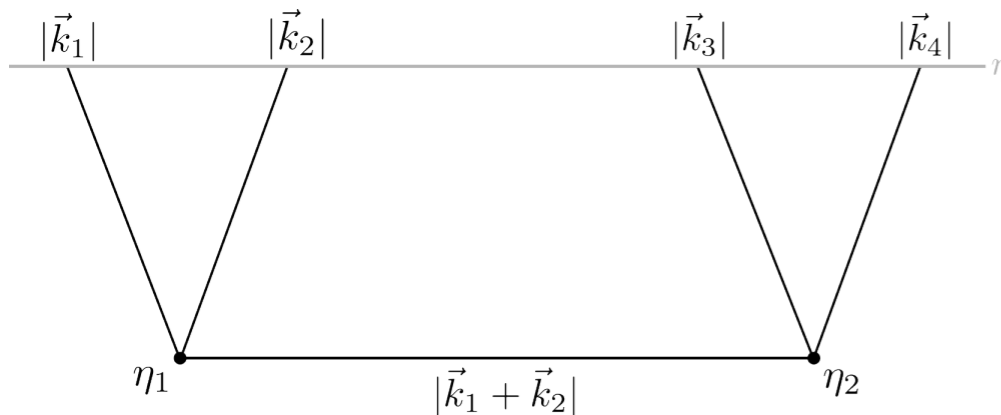
$\boxed{\text{Bulk-to-Bulk propagator}}$

For FLRW backgrounds, it is possible to perform the time integration by Fourier transforming the couplings, trading the time integration by a integration over the total external energy entering each site:

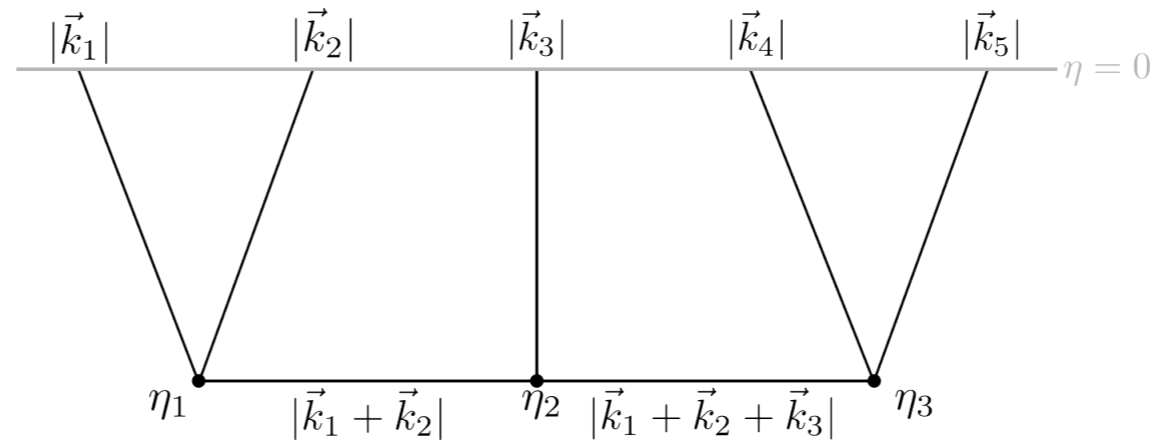
$$\text{In FLRW: } \lambda_3(\eta_s) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} d\omega_s e^{i\omega_s \eta_s} \lambda_3(\omega_s)$$

Wavefunction: Diagrammatic Expansion

After performing the time integration, at tree-level, $\psi_{\mathcal{G}}$ is a rational function of the norm of the momenta:



$$\frac{1}{\left(|\vec{k}_1| + |\vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_3| + |\vec{k}_4|\right) \left(|\vec{k}_1| + |\vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2|\right) \left(|\vec{k}_3| + |\vec{k}_4| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2|\right)}$$

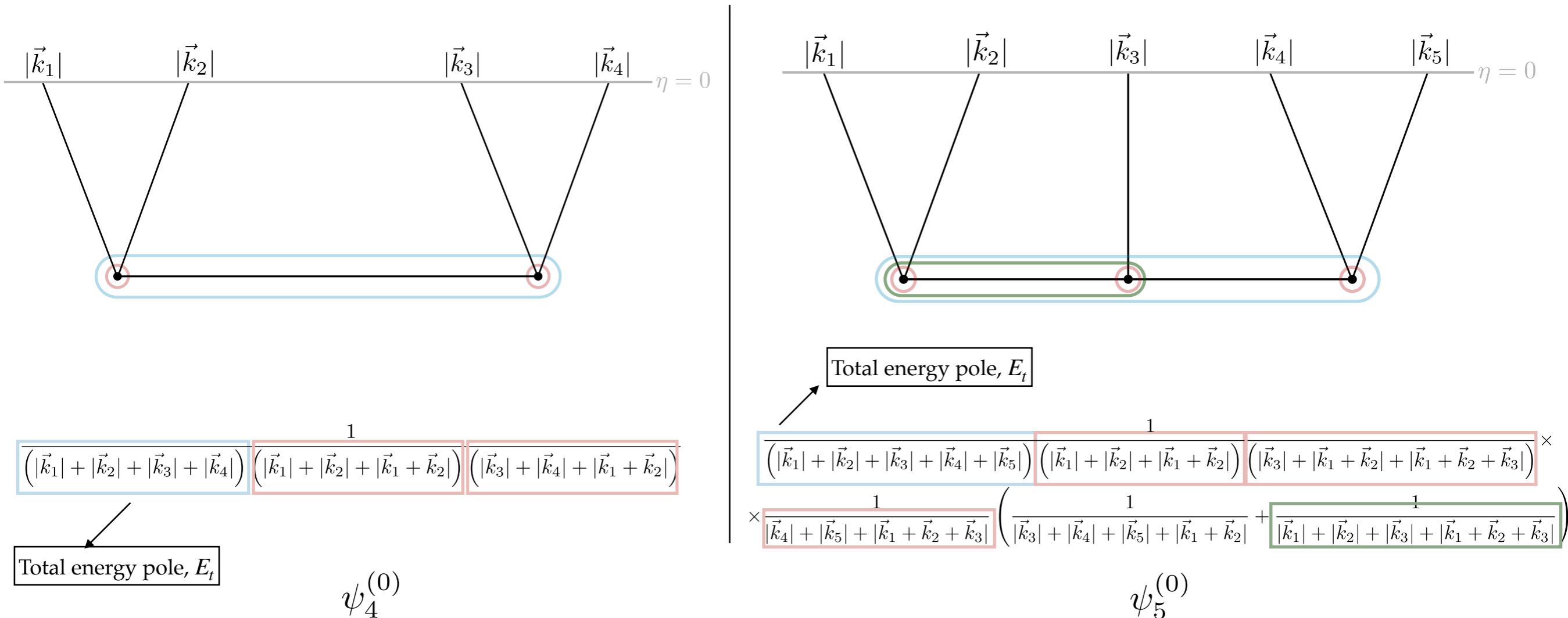


$$\frac{1}{\left(|\vec{k}_1| + |\vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_3| + |\vec{k}_4| + |\vec{k}_5|\right) \left(|\vec{k}_1| + |\vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2|\right) \left(|\vec{k}_3| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2 + \vec{k}_3|\right)} \times$$

$$\times \frac{1}{|\vec{k}_4| + |\vec{k}_5| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2 + \vec{k}_3|} \left(\frac{1}{|\vec{k}_3| + |\vec{k}_4| + |\vec{k}_5| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2|} + \frac{1}{|\vec{k}_1| + |\vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_3| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2 + \vec{k}_3|} \right)$$

Singularities of the Wavefunction

Every singularity of the integrand of the wavefunction, is directly associated with a subprocess. Diagrammatically, these subprocesses are represented as tubes in the graph:



The residue of the wavefunction on the total energy pole is the corresponding scattering amplitude!

$$\text{Res}_{E_t=0} \Psi_n = \mathcal{A}_n$$

Example:

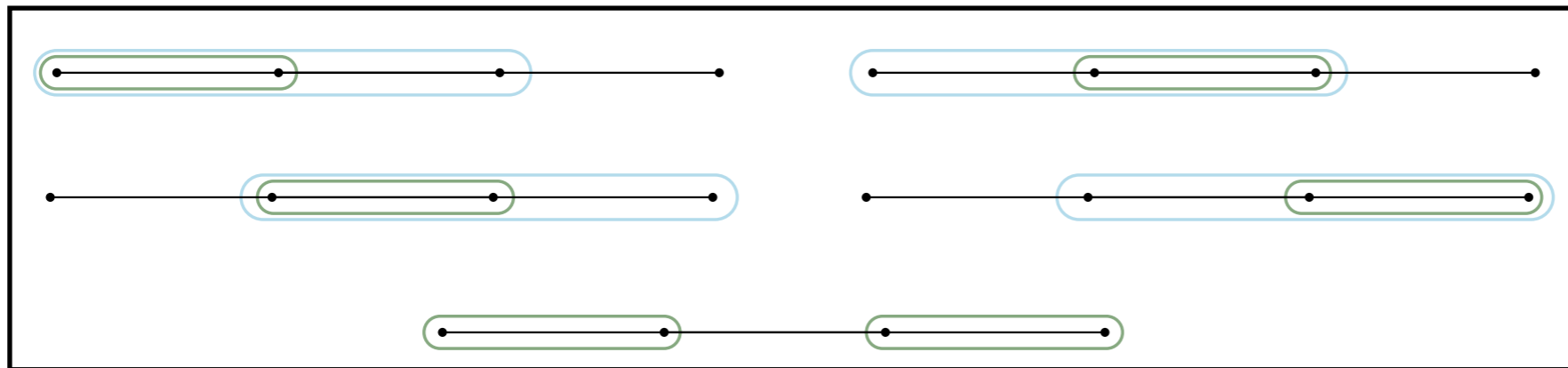
$$\text{Res}_{E_t=0} \psi_4^{(0)} = \frac{1}{-(|\vec{k}_1| + |\vec{k}_2|)^2 + (\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2)^2}$$

Integrand from Russian Dolls

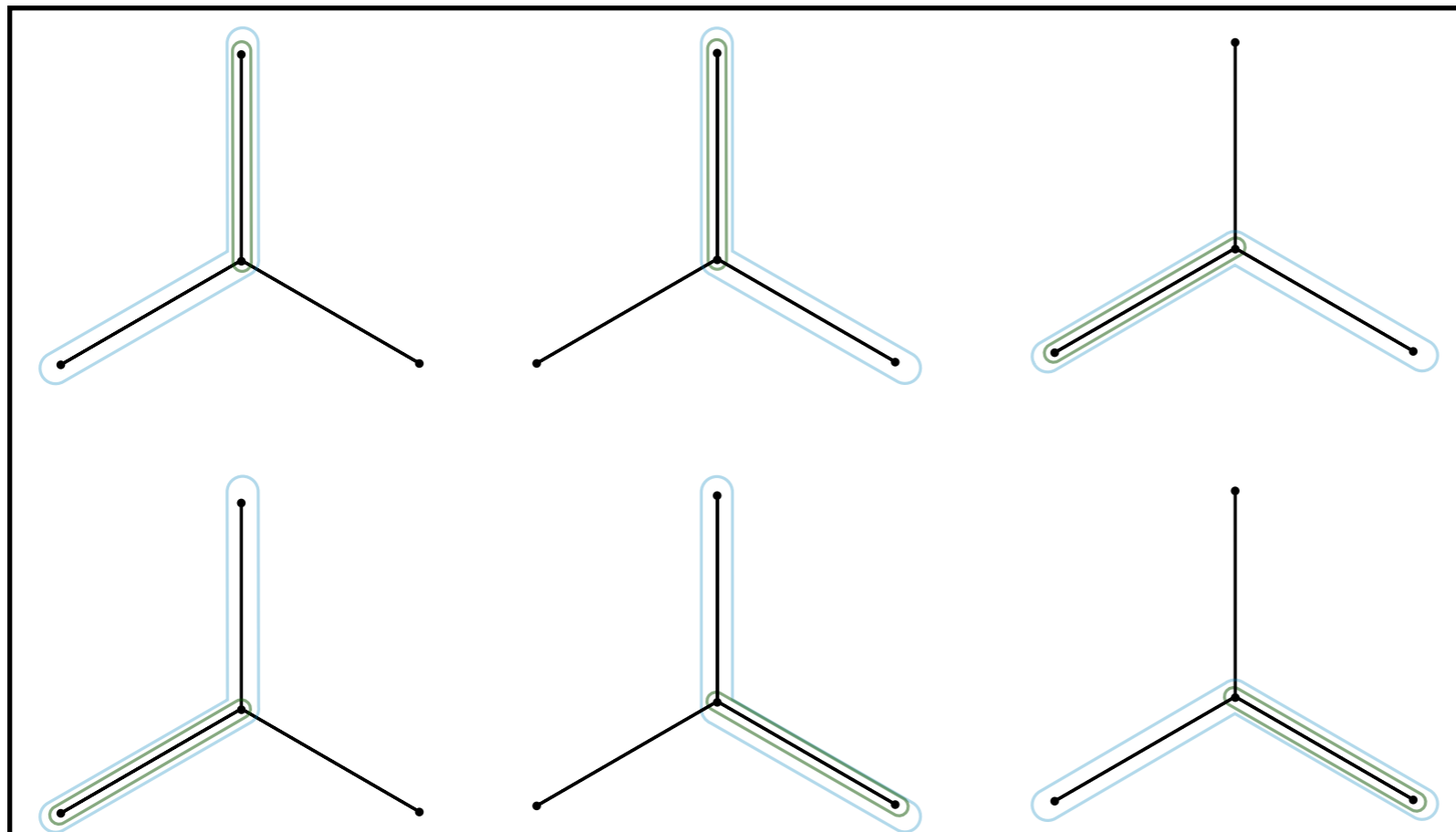
A Russian-Doll/Tubing is a maximal collection of non-overlapping tubes. The integrand of a given diagram is the sum over all possible tubings one can draw:



Five-point chain topology

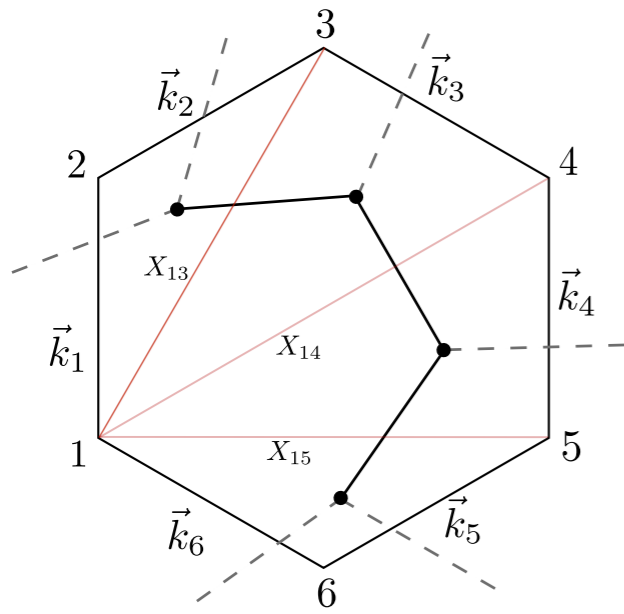


Six-point chain topology

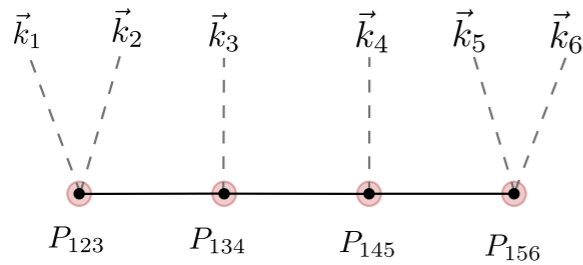
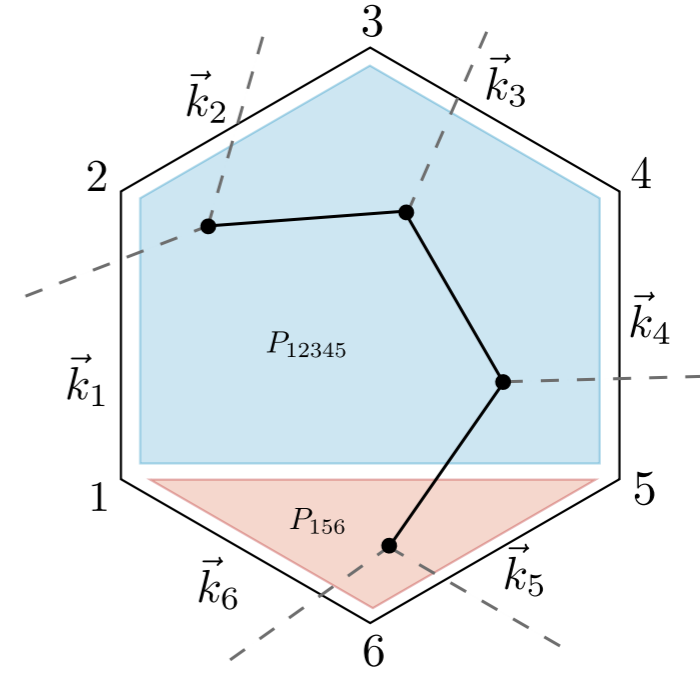
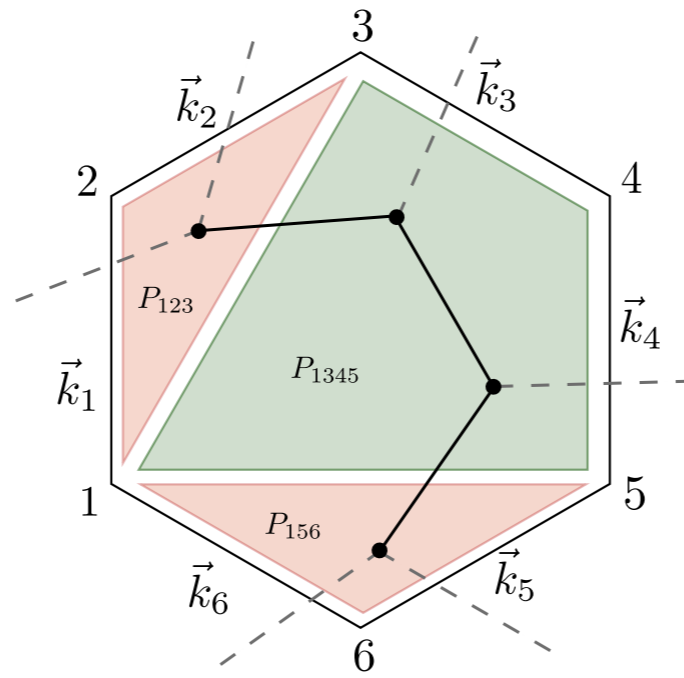
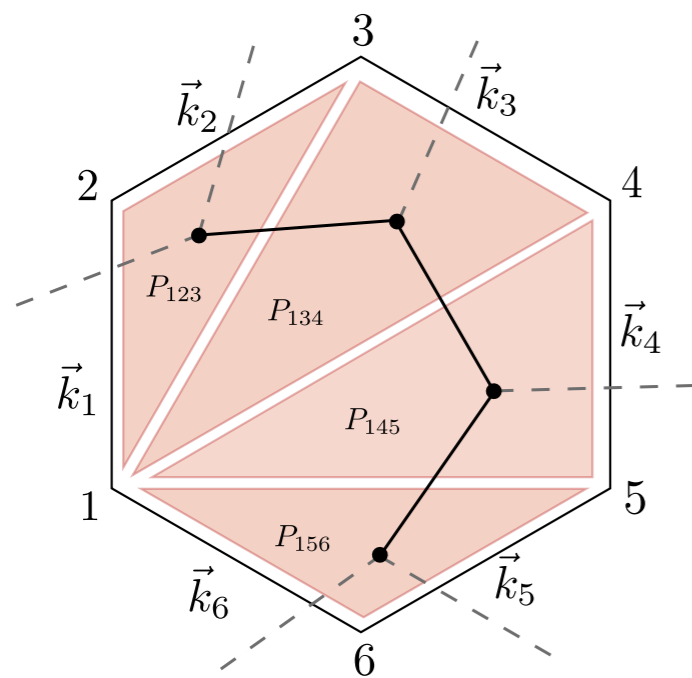


Six-point star topology

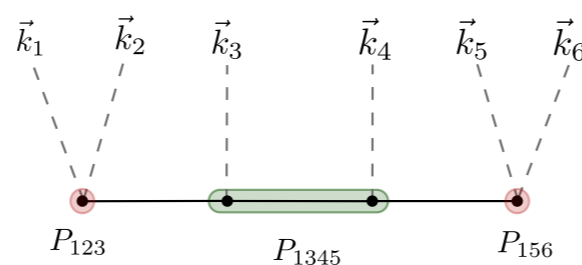
Kinematics From Sub-polygons



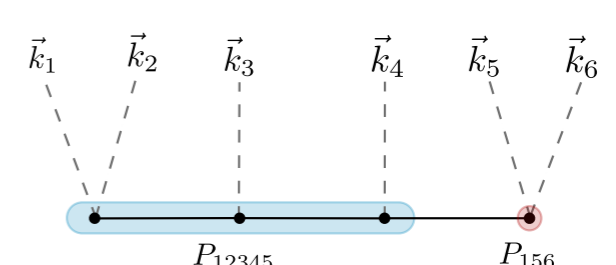
Every graph is dual to a triangulation of the momentum polygon. For the scattering amplitude, the dual variables are $X_{i,j} = (\vec{k}_i + \vec{k}_{i+1} + \dots + \vec{k}_{j-1})^2$. For the wavefunction, the dual variables will be the perimeters of the sub-polygons of the momentum polygon.



$$P_{123} = |\vec{k}_1| + |\vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2|$$



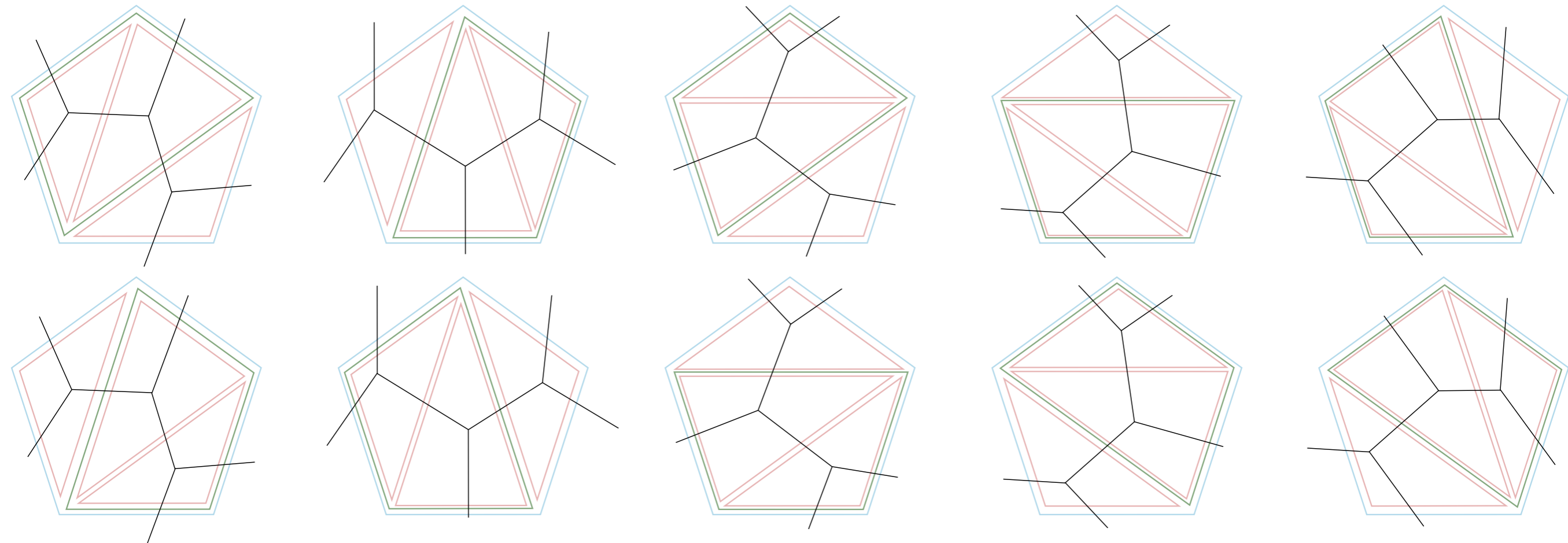
$$P_{1345} = |\vec{k}_3| + |\vec{k}_4| + |\vec{k}_1 + \vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_5 + \vec{k}_6|$$



$$P_{12345} = |\vec{k}_1| + |\vec{k}_2| + |\vec{k}_3| + |\vec{k}_4| + |\vec{k}_5 + \vec{k}_6|$$

Wavefunction From Sub-polygons

The wavefunction can be written as a sum over all maximal sets of non-overlapping sub-polygons.



This allows us to write the following form for the wavefunction:

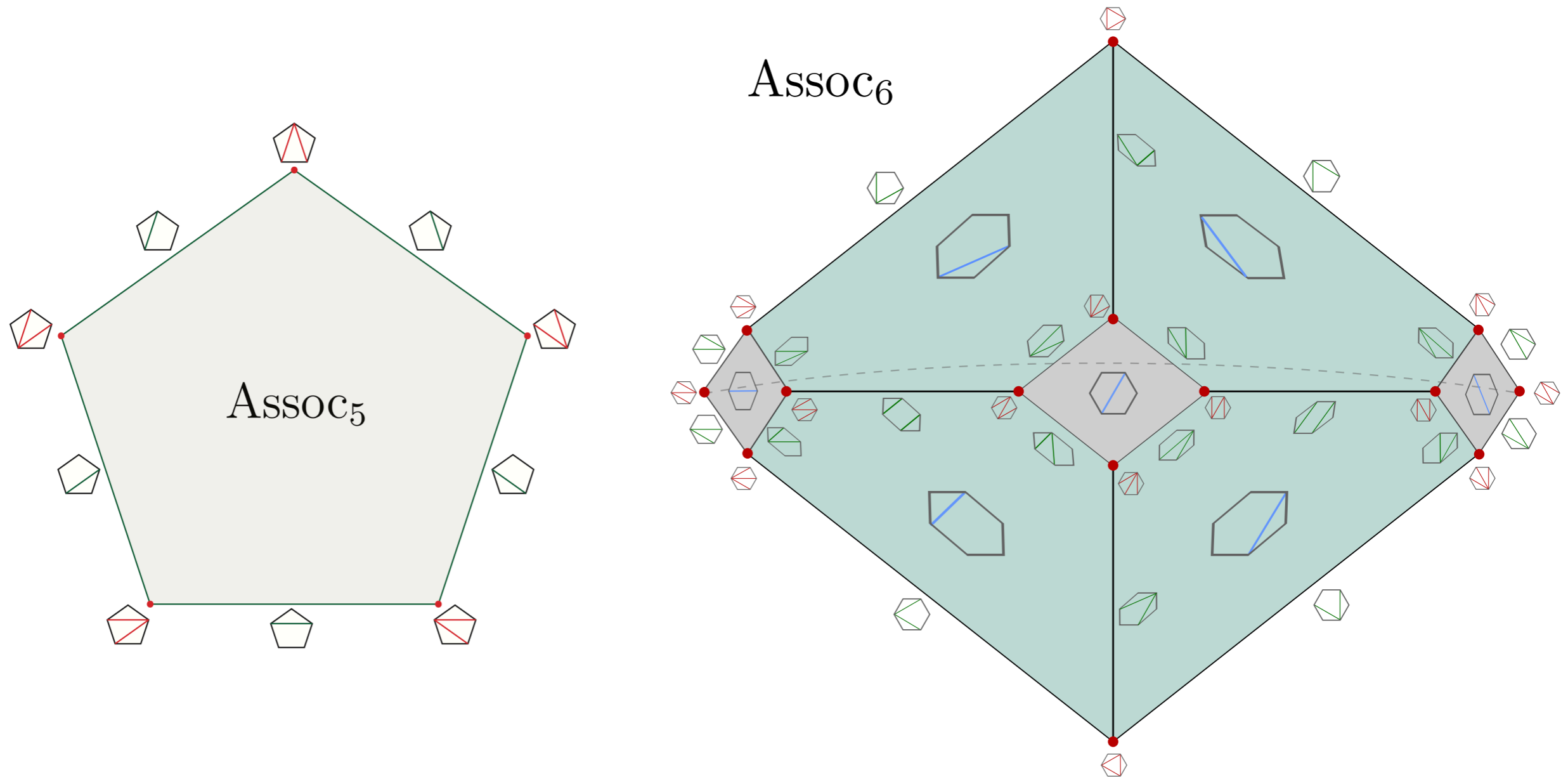
$$\Psi = \sum_{\mathbf{P}} \prod_{PCP} \frac{1}{\mathcal{P}_P}$$

Maximal sets of non-overlapping sub-polygons.

The ABHY Associahedron

Associahedron

The associahedron encodes the combinatorial information of triangulations of polygons:



Consider a set of cords, C . We say that C' is a refinement of C , if $C \subset C'$. Then:

C' is a face of C if $C \subset C'$

Amplitudes from the Associahedron

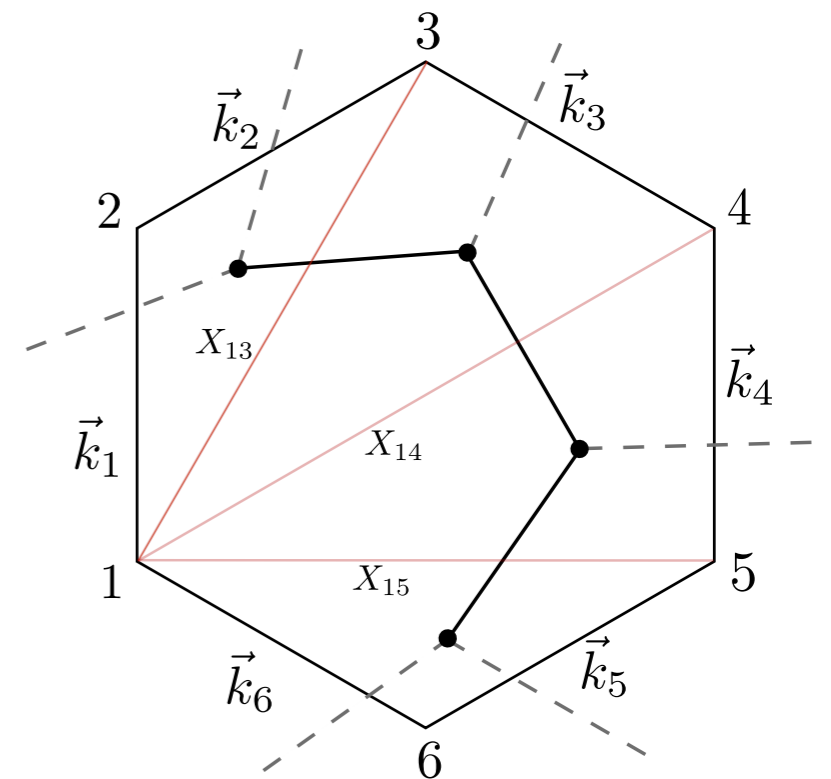
The ABHY associahedron is carved out by the inequalities $X_{i,j} \geq 0$. One can embed it in $(n - 3)$ -dimensional space, by picking a basis triangulation, *e.g.* $\{X_{1,3}, X_{1,4}, X_{1,5}\}$, and write the remaining $X_{i,j}$ -variables in terms of the base X 's, and the non-planar variables:

$$c_{i,j} = X_{i,j} + X_{i+1,j+1} - X_{i+1,j} - X_{i,j+1}$$

By fixing the c 's to be positive, one obtains the $(n - 3)$ -dimensional embedding of the associahedron.

The amplitude is given by the canonical form of the polytope.

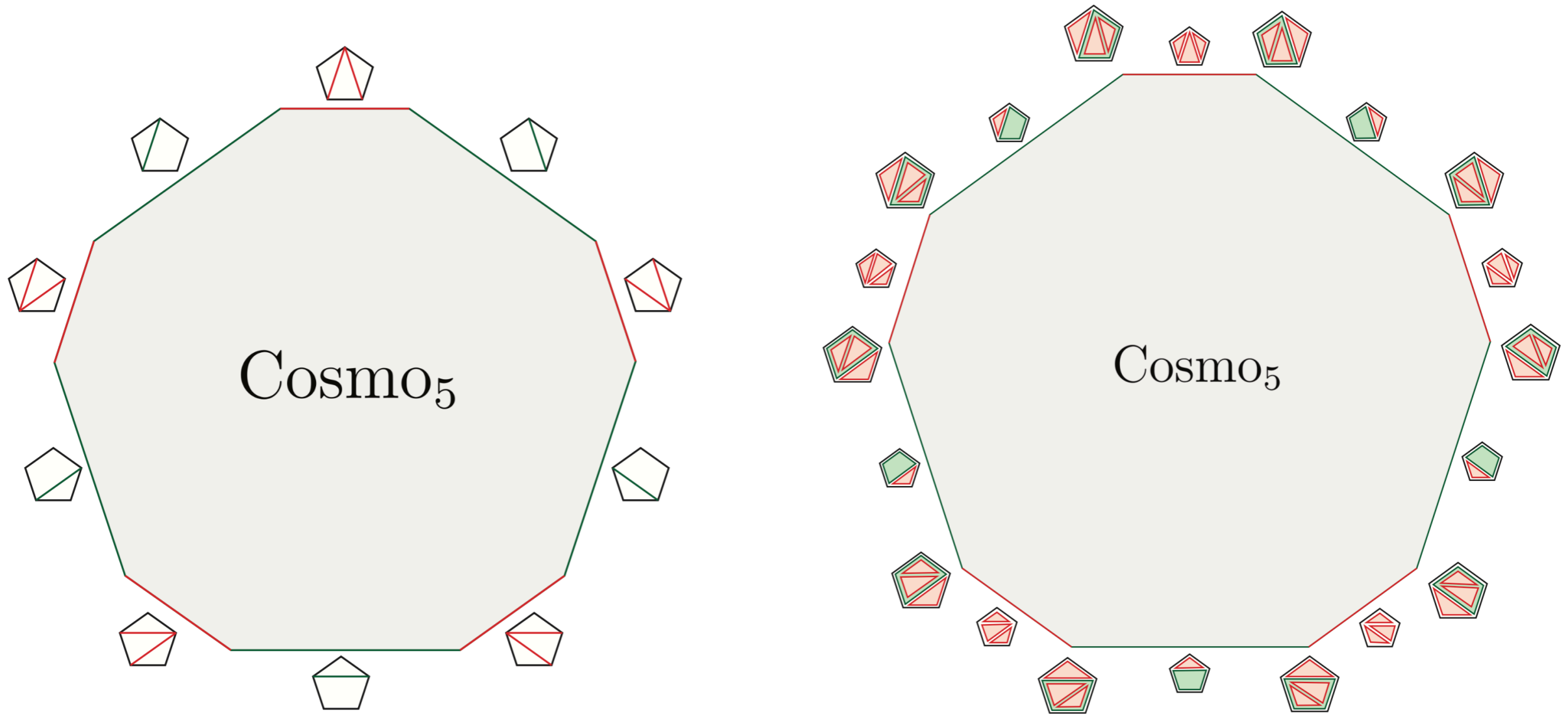
$$\mathcal{A}_n(X_{i,j}) = \sum_{\text{triang. } \mathcal{T}} \prod_{X_{i,j} \in \mathcal{T}} \frac{1}{X_{i,j}}$$



Cosmohedra

Cosmohedra

The cosmohedron captures the combinatorics of the full wavefunction!

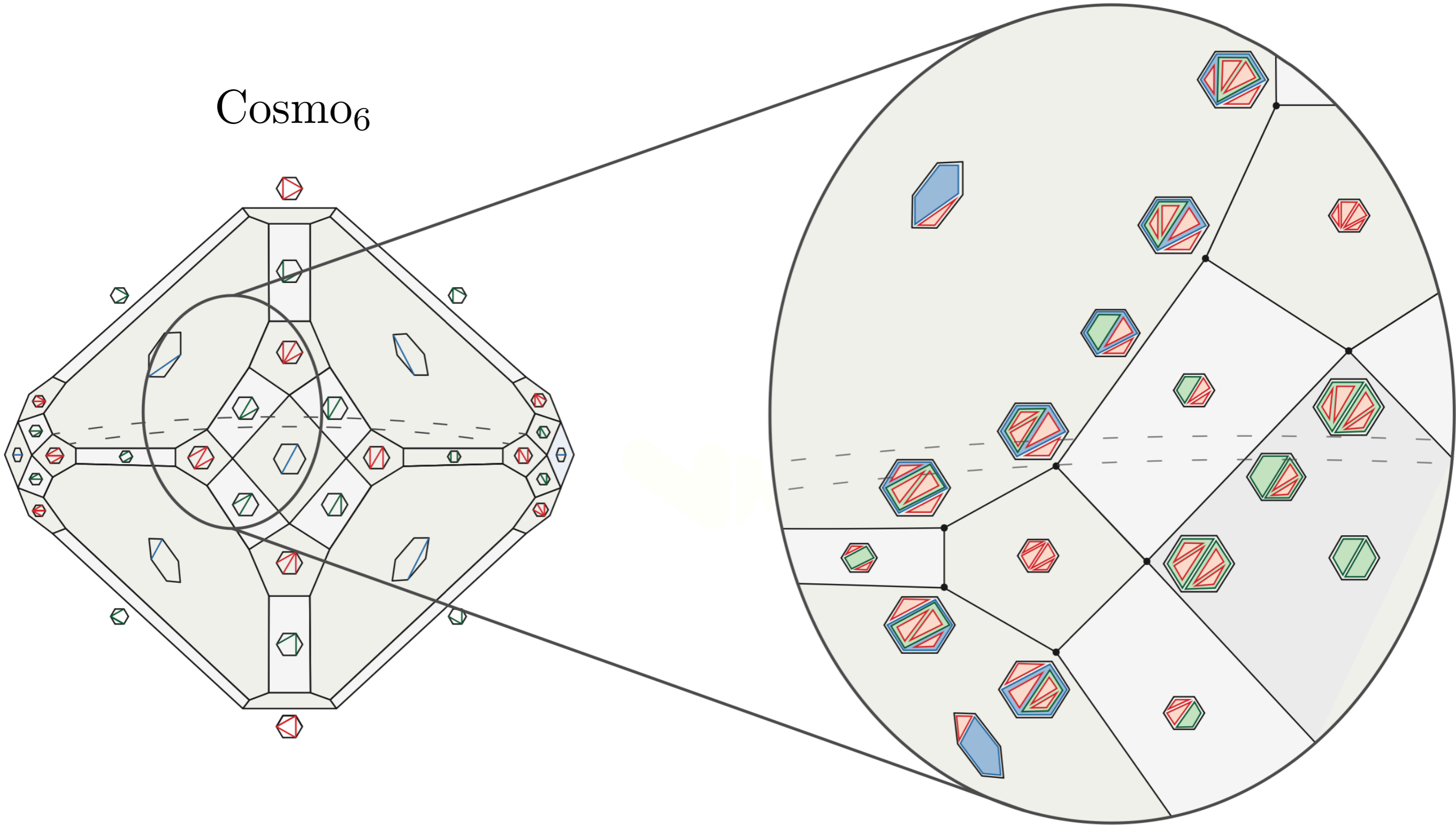


Considering that P is a collection of non-overlapping sub-polygons, then the cosmohedron has faces such that:

$$P' \text{ is a face of } P \text{ if } P \subset P'$$

Cosmohedra

Cosmo₆

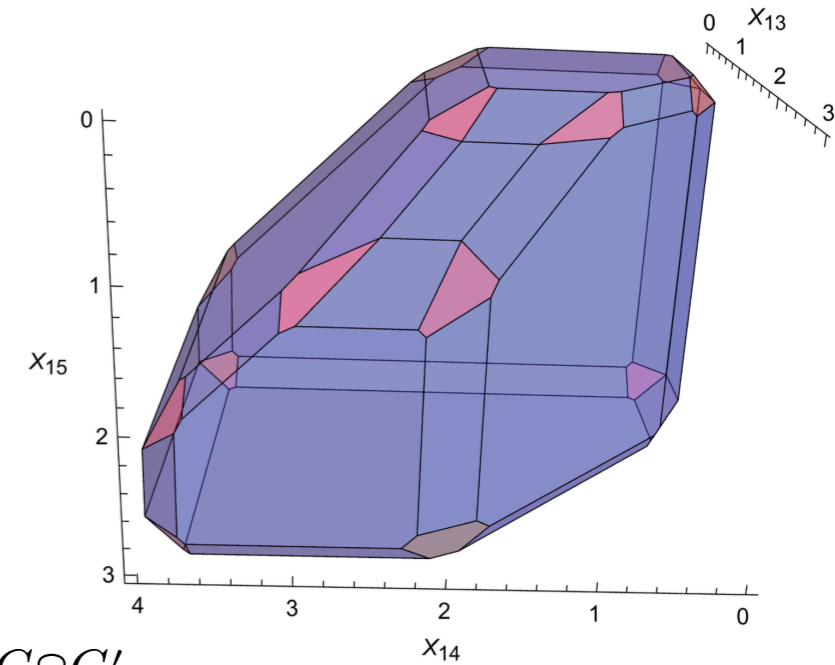


Cosmohedra: Embedding

The cosmohedron will be carved out by the inequalities:

$$\sum_{c \in C} X_c \geq \epsilon_C$$

Set of non-overlapping cords,
 partial triangulation.



Cosmo₆

Where the constants need to satisfy inequalities: $\epsilon_C + \epsilon_{C'} < \epsilon_{C \cup C'} + \epsilon_{C \cap C'}$

If $C \cap C'$ is entirely to left, or right of C, C' , then: $\epsilon_C + \epsilon_{C'} = \epsilon_{C \cup C'} + \epsilon_{C \cap C'}$

The above equalities are automatically satisfied if we impose

$$\epsilon_C = \sum_{P \text{ of } C} \delta_P$$

P are sub-polygons in C.

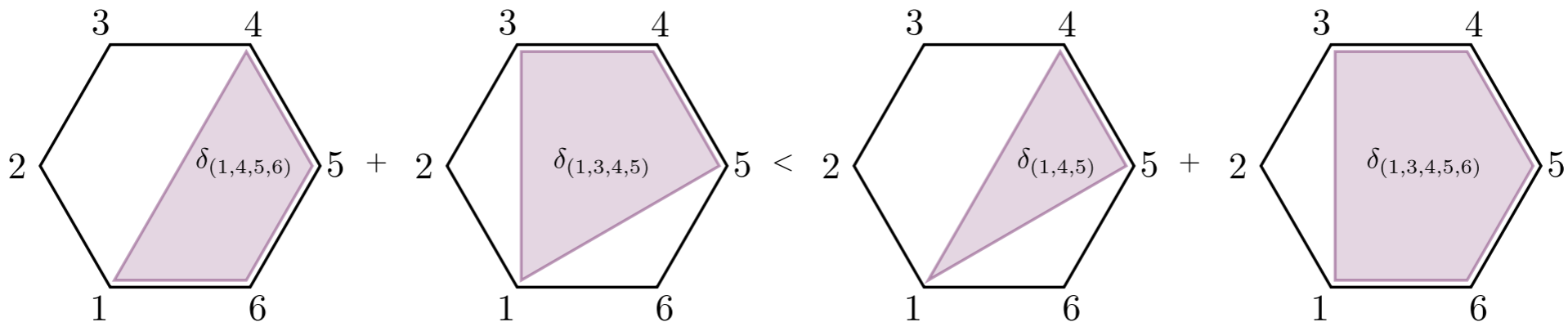
And the above inequalities are satisfied if we impose the following:

$$\delta_P + \delta_{P'} < \delta_{P \cap P'} + \delta_{P \cup P'}$$

True if imposing the
 parameterization

$$\delta_P = \delta(n - \#P)^2$$

Example:



Cosmohedra: Counting

Associahedron

$$\#\text{Facets}(\text{Assoc})_n \rightarrow \frac{n^2}{2}$$

$$\#\text{Vertices}(\text{Assoc})_n \rightarrow \frac{4^n}{n^{3/2} \sqrt{\pi}}$$

	codim-1	codim-2	codim-3	codim-4	codim-5	codim-6
4-points	2	—	—	—	—	—
5-points	5	5	—	—	—	—
6-points	9	21	14	—	—	—
7-points	14	56	84	42	—	—
8-points	20	120	300	330	132	—
9-points	27	225	825	1485	1287	429

Cosmohedron

$$\#\text{Facets}(\text{Cosmo})_n \rightarrow \frac{c}{n^{3/2}} (3 + \sqrt{8})^n$$

$$\#\text{Vertices}(\text{Cosmo})_n \rightarrow cn^4 n!$$

	codim-1	codim-2	codim-3	codim-4	codim-5	codim-6
4-points	2	—	—	—	—	—
5-points	10	10	—	—	—	—
6-points	44	114	72	—	—	—
7-points	196	952	1400	644	—	—
8-points	902	7116	18040	18528	6704	—
9-points	4278	50550	194616	332664	262728	78408

Outlook

Associahedron



Particle/String Amplitudes

[N. Arkani-Hamed, S. He, T. Lam, 19']

Scalars



Pions and Gluons

[N. Arkani-Hamed, Q. Cao, J. Dong, C. Figueiredo, S. He, 23']

What about Cosmology?

Thank You!